

Message Text

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13

ORIGIN ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 COA-02 INT-08 EB-11 COME-00 CIAE-00

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 085362

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, EFIS, EC

SUBJECT: REVISIONS TO ECUADOREAN FISHING LAW

REF: A) QUITO 2249; B) QUITO 2204; C) MCKERNAN- QUEVEDO

MEMCON 4/24/73; D) QUITO 2297

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY COMMENTS REQUESTED ON ADVISABILITY
OF EARLY APPROACH TO GOE TO INDICATE USG CONCERN OVER
POSSIBLE MODIFICATION OF ECUADOREAN FISHING LAW. END
SUMMARY.

2. PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY UNDER SECRETARY NATURAL RESOURCES
RIVADENEIRA REPORTED REF A MAY PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO
CONVEY TO FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECT OR THROUGH AMBASSADOR
QUEVEDO OUR CONCERN THAT NEW RESTRICTIVE MEASURES BY GOE
AGAINST FOREIGN FISHERMEN WILL ESCALATE FISHERIES DISPUTE
AND WOULD BE ESPECIALLY UNFORTUNATE IN VIEW OF PROXIMITY OF
U. N. LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE. AMBASSADOR MCKERNAN MADE
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THIS POINT IN GENERAL TERMS TO AMBASSADOR QUEVEDO IN THEIR RECENT CONVERSATION REPORTED REF C, BUT WE BELIEVE THERE MAY BE ADVANTAGE TO REITERATING OUR CONCERN WHEN WE CAN PITCH OUR REMARKS TO SPECIFIC PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY KEY ECUADOREAN OFFICIAL CONCERNED WITH FISHERIES POLICY.

TIMING ALSO SEEMS OPPORTUNE, SINCE REFS A AND B INDICATE THAT DEBATE WITHIN GOE OVER TERMS OF NEW FISHERIES LAW MAY BE REACHING CRITICAL STAGE

4. THE SOONER WE CAN RECEIVE THIS INFO THE BETTER, ESPECIALLY SINCE WE MAY FIND IT USEFUL IN CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON FY 1974 PROGRAM. IT MAY BE DESIRABLE TO CABLE MAIN POINTS FIRST AND SEND DETAILS BY AIRGRAM.

DECONTROL: MAY 5, 1974 RUSH

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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